No Objection to Declassification in Part 2010/07/08 : LOC-HAK-551-5-69-9

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TOP S E C R E T SENSITIVE CONTAINS CODEWORD EXCLUSIVELY EYES ONLY

DELIVER AT OPENING OF BUSINESS VIA BLACK PATCH WH60026

TOHAK 49

JANUARY 4, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL SCOWCROFT

FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM

SUBJECT: SUNDAY CABLE SUMMARY

25X1,6

[redacted]

NEW ETHIOPIAN MILITIA FORCE: ACCORDING TO DIA, THE ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT IS REPORTEDLY ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL MILITIA FORCE

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HYLAND, MCFARLANE, ROOMAN, SEEFLE

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******* T O P S E C R E T *******S COPY

NSA, DIA reviews completed

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

NGA Review Completed

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OF BETWEEN 5,000 AND 10,000 MEN WHO ARE PRIMARILY REACTIVATED RETIRED VETERANS. SOME SMALL UNITS MAY HAVE ALREADY BEEN DEPLOYED TO THE WESTERN PROVINCES. THE USSR, CHINA, AND OTHER COMMUNIST COUNTRIES HAVE OFFERED TO HELP ORGANIZE THE NEW FORCE, BUT SO FAR ADDIS ABABA HAS REFUSED THEIR ASSISTANCE. ANGRY RETIRED VETERANS ARE DEMANDING MORE MONEY AND BENEFITS, WHICH THE ALREADY STRAINED MILITARY BUDGET CANNOT AFFORD. THUS, THERE IS A GOOD POSSIBILITY THAT THE MILITIA, WHOSE DEPENDABILITY IS ALREADY SUSPECT, WILL BE A COUNTERPRODUCTIVE FORCE AND ANOTHER SEGMENT OF UNREST IN THE MILITARY.

PROMOTIONS MAY PRESAGE PAKISTANI DEFENSE REORGANIZATION: ACCORDING TO DIA, THE JANUARY 1 PROMOTION OF THE PAKISTANI AIR AND NAVY CHIEFS TO FOUR-STAR RANK MAY PRESAGE THE LONG-EXPECTED ANNOUNCEMENT OF A JOINT COMMAND STRUCTURE. THE ONE GRADE ELEVATION OF ZULFIQAR ALI KHAN TO AN AIR CHIEF MARSHAL, AND MUHAMMAD SHARIFF TO ADMIRAL CAME AS A COMPLETE SURPRISE. THE PROMOTIONS WERE THE FIRST TO THESE RANKS IN PAKISTAN'S AIR FORCE AND NAVY. ISLAMABAD HAS PLANNED TO ESTABLISH A JOINT STAFF ORGANIZATION SIMILAR TO THE U.S. MODEL FOR MORE THAN A YEAR. THE REORGANIZATION IS EXPECTED TO IMPROVE INTERSERVICE COOPERATION AND COORDINATION. A MAJOR PROBLEM IN PAKISTAN'S 1971 WAR WITH INDIA. CURRENTLY, THESE MATTERS ARE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE JOINT CHIEFS SECRETARIAT UNDER A CIVILIAN DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR COORDINATION.

WINTER TRAINING: PRE WINTER GROUND FORCE TRAINING SO FAR THIS YEAR IS SMALLER IN SCALE AND INTENSITY THAN IN PREVIOUS YEARS, ACCORDING TO DIA. ONLY SIX OF CHINA'S 11 MILITARY REGIONS (MRS) HAVE CONDUCTED EXERCISES, AND TRAINING IN THREE OF THE SIX HAS NOT PROGRESSED BEYOND DIVISION LEVEL. TRAINING IS APPARENTLY FOUR TO SIX WEEKS BEHIND NORMAL AND MAY NOT REACH THE LEVEL OF EXERCISES NOTED PREVIOUSLY. PRESIDENT FORD'S RECENT VISIT CAUSED TRAINING CANCELLATIONS AND INCREASED COMMUNICATION SECURITY AND MAY PARTLY ACCOUNT FOR THE LAGGING TRAINING CYCLE. ARMY PARTICIPATION IN CIVILIAN POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC CAMPAIGNS IS ANOTHER FACTOR.

SOVIET DESTROYER DEPARTS CONAKRY: THE SOVIET KOTLIN-CLASS DESTROYER WHICH ARRIVED IN CONAKRY, GUINEA, ON DECEMBER 29, DEPARTED JANUARY 2 AND IS HEADING SOUTH. IT PRESUMABLY WILL JOIN THE LST -- 300 MILES OFF POINTE NOIRE, CONGO. THERE IS NO EVIDENCE THAT THE FOUR SOVIET OIL TANKERS ALSO IN CONAKRY HAVE LEFT. SEANNUILL, ANOTHER SOVIET TANKER CONTINUES TO MOVE SOUTHWARD. IT WAS NORTHEAST OF THE CAPE VERDE ISLANDS DURING THE EVENING OF JANUARY 2.
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